Remarks

Reconsideration of the present application is hereby requested.

Claims 1 to 28 were pending in this application.

Claims 1 to 11¹ have been withdrawn from further consideration by the Examiner pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

Claims 12 to 26 have been amended to address the Section 112 ground for rejection by replacing the alternative (and/or) expressions with the conjunction "and". Support for amendments made to claims 12 to 26 can be found on pages 3 to 4, paragraph number [0014] and FIG. 1 of the application, as filed.

Claims 27 and 28 have been allowed.

New claims 29 and 30 have been added. Support for new claims 29 and 30 can be found on page 9, paragraph number [0039], page 10, paragraph number [0041], and FIGS. 4 and 5 of the application, as filed.

Claims 12 to 30 are currently pending in this application.

In regard to the rejection of claims 12 to 26 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite where these claims include alternative (and/or) expressions of structural elements, Applicant submits that amendments made to claims 12 to 26 serve to render the grounds for this rejection moot.

The First Office Action mailed May 17, 2005 identified the invention of Group I as including claims 1 to 12 and the invention of Group II as including claims 12 to 28. Overlapping claim 12, however, should only have been included in Group II.

Early reconsideration of the subject patent application in view of the above amendments and remarks is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

A check in the amount of \$200.00 is enclosed for this Amendment. Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-2622.

Respectfully submitted,

med

Mary R. Bonzagni Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 34779 Customer No. 27804 (413) 567-2076

Date: August 18, 2005

[02137P17]